

REMARKS

The applicant elects the invention of Group I, directed to a method for processing fullerenes and reading on claims 1-93 and 117-121, with traverse. The applicant withdraws all remaining claims directed to the non-elected inventions of Groups II, III, and IV.

The applicant further elects Species B, which was characterized in the examiner's restriction requirement as a method of processing fullerenes including (1) teaching burning a carbon-containing fuel as a method of producing fullerene, and (2) being open to condensing the fullerene before a gas/solid separations process, with traverse.

The applicant adds new claim, Claim 122, as a claim generic to all claims in Group I.

The applicant submits that claims 1-93 and 117-122 read on the elected species. While claim 51 (identified by the Examiner as exemplary of Species B) specifically requires burning of a carbon-containing fuel as an element of the species, there is nothing in claims 1 (identified by the Examiner as exemplary of Species A) that would exclude such a possibility from the method of claim 1. Similarly, claim 51 is silent as to whether fullerenes are condensed prior to the gas/solids separations process and therefore encompass processes in which the gaseous fullerenes are not condensed prior to separation (note also that the gas/solids separations process of claim 51 acts on gaseous fullerenes). Therefore, all the claims in Group I read on the elected species.

Please charge any fees which may be due, or credit any overpayments, to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

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Respectfully submitted,



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